hydrated precursor is associated with an endothermic reaction. The bioceramic composition of the invention may be prepared by mixing in any order, (a) an amorphous calcium phosphate, (b) a promoter, and (c) an aqueous-based liquid in an amount sufficient to form a paste or putty, whereby the paste is converted into a hardened product, such as for example, a poorly crystalline apatitic calcium phosphate, and the hardening reaction is associated with an endothermic reaction.--

On page 10, line 14, please delete "and"

On page 10, line 17; please delete ";" and insert therefor --.--

On page 10, after line 17, please add the following passage:

--Figure 22 is a differential scanning calorimeter (DSC) plot of the reaction of reactive ACP with DCPD showing endothermic nature of the reaction.--

On page 55, after line 4, please insert the following passage:

--Example 26. This example demonstrates the use of a scanning differential calorimeter (DSC) to monitor temperature sensitivity and the net endothermic nature of a preferred embodiment reaction employing activated ACP and DCPD precursors.

The dry precursor mixture containing equal weights of ACP and DCPD was prepared. Water (0.05 mL), prechilled to approximately 4°C, was added to 47.27 mg of the dry precursor mixture and immediately placed into the calorimeter. The DSC (Perkin Elmer 7 series thermal analysis system) was set to a starting temperature of 0°C with a scan rate of 5°C/min. The results are shown in Figure 22. The plot represents a